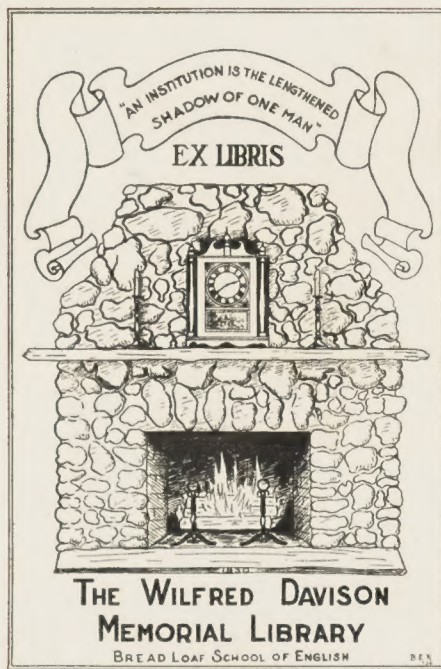


#14
31 Bread Loaf Writer's Conference
The Crumb - 1932



Bound by

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Bellevue Hills, N.Y.

The Crumb - August 17, 1932

We extend to the members of the Writer's Conference a cordial welcome to Bread Loaf. Please let us know at the offices when we may be of service to you. The Office of the Inn, where you registered when you came to the Inn is glad to be of service to you in matters of room, board etc. The School Office, located in the maze of corridors towards the Music Hall and Library, is ready to help you regarding the Conference. Please make known you wants.

Each day "The Crumb" the official newspaper of Bread Loaf will bring to you the program of the day's event. In all probability it will be published as a morning edition, but at times you may find at your places in the dining room additional "crumbs" containing important information.

TONIGHT

A reception will be held this evening at 8.00 in the Music Hall. It is expected that President Paul D. Moody will be present and that John Farra, founder of the Writer's Conference and Vice President of Farrar and Rhinehart, Publishers, will speak. Everyone at Bread Loaf, members of the Conference, Guests of the Inn and their guests, is cordially invited. The Music Hall is the long low white building in the rear of the Inn as you proceed down the porches to the west.

Registration

The procedure regarding registration is as follows:

Please see Mr. Morrison, the Director of the Conference. Appointments will be made for you by Mr. Nichol who will look you up soon after your arrival at Bread Loaf. Interviews will be held in the Director's Office, and you are requested to bring with you any manuscripts which you wish to have read and criticized or about which you wish to have advice. The Director must insist that all manuscripts pass through his hands.

After you have seen the Director, please see Mr. Bicknell in the Long Parlor right next to the Dean's Office. He will be in the Long Parlor between five and six this afternoon. He will also be on hand between 7 and 7.30 this evening. It will be necessary to be completely registered before attending any of the morning lectures tomorrow morning.

Mrs. Powell will be here this evening afternoon at five o'clock until six to register you, and to talk with you regarding rooms etc. Please see her relative to any routine details of the Conference.

Guests of the INN

Those guest of the Inn who may wish to attend the morning lectures, or the afternoon round table discussions, must make arrangements with the Director. A fee is charged for each lecture. This does not include the evening lectures to which everyone at Bread Loaf is cordially invited.

Library

The Davison Memorial Library will be open during the Writer's Conference for the following periods each day except Saturdays and Sundays

8.30 - 9.00 A.M.
12.00 - 12.30 Noon
3.00 - 6.00 P.M.
7.00 - 8.00 P.M.

On Saturdays the afternoon hours will be omitted, and on Sundays the hours will be 10.00 to 12.00 A.M. and 9.00 to 10.00 P.M.

Staff

All members of the Staff are asked to meet in the parlor of Treman Cottage immediately after the reception this evening.

The Crumb - August 17, 1932

The schedule of meetings for the morning is as follows:

- 9.00 - Miss Widdomer - Mark Twain's Eighteen Rules for Fiction
- 10.00 - Mr. Hillyer - Development of Poetic Technique
- 11.00 - Mr. Dodd - The Essay Writing Temper

The first Round Table conference will be held today at 2.00 in the Music Hall. The general topic will be "The Relation of Experience to Writing." Every member of the Conference is urged to participate by asking questions, contributing suggestions, or giving evidence and testimony from her own experience. What constitutes "experience"? from the writer's point of view? How may it be used in fiction, verse, essays and the like? How valuable are notebooks and journals as records of fruitful experiences? These are only a few of innumerable questions which might arise under this topic.

The incoming mails are ready for distribution at 10.30 A.M. and 5.00 P.M.

The mails close for outgoing mails at 8.30 P.M., and 8.30 A.M. All mail to go out on Saturday must be in the mail box by 12.00 noon. There is no incoming mail on Saturday P.M.

Arrangements may be made at the desk (the Inn desk) regarding special rates for saddle horses; that is if you wish to ride daily while you are here special arrangements may be made whereby you will receive some discount. Otherwise the hourly rates are as follows:

\$1.50 per hour with instructor

\$1.00 per hour without instructor

Appointments will be made with Mr. Stevenson at the barn in the rear of the Inn or at the Inn desk.

On the shelf outside the Dining Room you will find a question box in which we would appreciate your placing any questions you may want discussed at the Round Table Conferences. Indicate your questions and include some explanatory remarks that the Director may be sure of the point of view expressed. We urge all the members of the conference to bring to us the special problems that they may have.

The Crumb - August 18, 1932

The Crumb is glad to announce that Miss Widdemer has consented to give a reading from her poems and parodies at eight oclock this evening in the Music Hall.

Books written by members of the staff may be ordered through the Bread Loaf Bookstore. Those who desire copies should consult Mr. Nichol not later than next Monday, as time is required to fill orders.

The Bookstore is located near the Dean's Office, and there you may secure a limited supply of candy, cigarettes, films, tennis balls, books, paper, pencils, ink etc. The hours are as follows:

After breakfast	8.45 to 8.55
" dinner	1.30 to 1.45
" supper	7.00 to 7.10

A schedule of evening lectures by staff members has been arranged for the next few days. Tonight Miss Widdemer will read; on Friday evening Mr. DeVoto will speak on Mark Twain. On Saturday evening Mr. Hillyer will read from his own poems, and on Monday evening, Mr. Eaton will speak on Yankee lore and traditions and their relation to American writing.

We are glad to announce that Mr. Farrar has consented to extend his stay at Bread Loaf long enough to take charge of the Round Table conference on Friday of this week. No general topic will be set, but it is hoped that members of the Conference will come prepared to ask Mr. Farrar questions of all sorts bearing on the problems of writers and their profession. Such questions may be written out and handed in before the Conference by means of the Question Box outside the dining room, or may be asked viva voce at the conference itself. Mr. Farrar will be particularly glad to answer any questions about publishers, editors, or practical details about a writer's work by which members of the Conference may have been troubled or puzzled; but questions of any relevant and useful kind will be given a hearing.

Correction

The charge for saddled horses was incorrectly stated in this morning's Crumb. The charge is \$1.50 without instructor and \$2.00 with instructor per hour of riding.

Table Change

You have been assigned definite places at table today. In order that you may meet as informally as possible all the other members of the Conference it is the policy of the Writer's Conference to move you from table to table every Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday. Sunday noon will be the next change. Please keep the places assigned you today until then.

The Crumb - August 19, 1932

You are reminded of the lecture this evening by Mr. De Voto in the Music Hall at 8.00. The subject is "Mark Twain"

The program of morning lectures for today will be as follows.

9.00	Mr. Eaton -	"The Nature of Drama and choice of theme. Common mistakes about what is dramatic."
10.00	Mr. Devoto	"The conditions of the Short Story"
11.00	Mr. Munson	"Literary Criticism and the Social Crisis."

Mr. Munson has given his series of morning lectures the general title of "Applied Criticism." In the course of the lectures he will informally apply critical judgement to important writers and movements of today, American and European, and will give suggestions about reading of aid to those who would like to be well posted on contemporary letters.

Round Table Conference

As the Crumb has already announced, today's round table conference will be under the direction of John Farrar, and who will be glad to answer any questions about publishers, editor or practical or professional problems encountered by writers, or questions which members of the Conference would like to put to him as publisher, editor, and critic.

The Crumb - August 20, 1932

We are glad to announce the following schedule of lectures for this morning:

- | | | |
|-------|---------------|--|
| 9.00 | Mr. Dodd | "A Survey of Essay Writing" |
| 10.00 | Miss Widdemer | "How to Handle your Plot". |
| 11.00 | Mr. Hillyer | "Development of Poetic Technique
(continued)" |

This evening at eight oclock in the Music Hall, Mr. Hillyer will give a reading from his poetical workd.

There will be no Round Table Conference this afternoon. The next Round Table will take place on Monday at two oclock, Mr. Dodd presiding. Members of the Conference will help very much to make the Round Table of Greater value to themselves and all concerned by considering the proposed topic in advance and endeavoring to crystallize their ideas about it, so that they may come prepared to enter into the discussion with zest and definiteness.

The general topic will be: "The relations of literature and propoganda." What is proletarian literature? Is it literature of the future? Several of our best younger critics - Edmund Wilson and Malcolm Cowley, for example - have lately become Communists, and there is a body of younger writers as well who are determined to cruch out "bourgeois art." What are the relations of art and propoganda? How far should the writer yield to the demands often made that he shall reflect various special influences - economic creeds of contemporary life, or the spirit the age, or the national character? The whole question is vital and needs thorough discussion, for you will find yourselves eventually forced to take sides.

If there are a sufficient number of poeple at the Inn interested in an all day hike or in an afternoon hike, the administrative staff of the School offers the following suggestions:

An afternoon hike on Sunday to Fire-Tpwer Hill from which may be seen a considerable numberof the Green Mountain peaks. Total distance 4 miles

An all day hike to Boyce Lodge and Burnt Hill, cooking dinner at Boyce Lodge and returning to the Inn in time for supper. Total milage about 6 miles.

If you are interested please see Mr. Nichol directly after dinner today in the hall outside the dining room door. Please indicate your choice.

The Crumb - August 22, 1932

The order and subjects of the lectures this morning is as follows:

- 9.00 - DeVoto - The Mechanics of Illusion
- 10.00 - Munson - The American Novel
- 11.00 - Eaton - "Blocking out a play: the scenario."

This afternoon the Round Table will be in charge of Mr. Dodd.

The subject or general topic will be: "The relations of literature and propaganda." What is proletarian literature?etc.

Tonight at 8.00 Mr. Eaton will speak to us on "Some Folklore of Vermont." Everyone at Bread Loaf is cordially invited.

The subject of tomorrow's Round Table is "How to Tell an Idea" with Mr. Eaton residing. Is it possible to tell when one has really got hold of an idea for a story, poem, or the like, and when one is merely deluded? Are ideas proposed by others of any use to the writer? What should one do with an idea which seems attractive, but for which there seems to be no market? How can Notebooks, journals, and the like be used to promote or preserve ideas?

The Crumb - August 23, 1932

The lectures and topics for today will be :

9.00 - Mr. Hillyer - The Development of Poetic Technique
(Continued)

10.00 Mr. Dodd - "Essaying the Essay" - with examples and
practical suggestions

11.00 Miss Widdemer - "The Bones of a Book"

We look forward with pleasure to Mrs. Dorothy Canfield Fisher's visit and lecture this evening at eight oclock in the Music Hall. It is expected that Mrs. Fisher will speak on the taste of the American reading public as she has observed it while acting as one of the board of judges of the Book of the Month Club.

The Round Table Conference this afternoon will be in charge of Mr. Eaton. The topic will be "How to recognize an Idea." What tests do you apply to an idea to determine its promise as literary material? How far should the market be considered? - The news value test for articles. Tests of length and "body". What do you do with a good idea when it won't "jell"? What do you do with ideas which are scraps?

Mr. Munson will have charge of the Round Table tomorrow. His topic will be "Tricks of the Trade." It is proposed to make a pool of practical tips on anything connected with writing, e.g. tips on acquiring a vocabulary, on pen-attitudes, on planning a work, on revision, etc. Please contribute anything you have learned that might be of practical value to others.

One Wednesday afternoon at four thirty, Mr. Morrison will speak on "Mastery of Prose Style", and on certain methods and devices which may be an aid in learning to master it.

Wednesday night has been purposely left free from lectures. The Management of the Inn has very kindly consented to run a card-party. Those who would like to play are urged to make up their own groups, appoint a representative who will inform the Inn Office of their willingness to play. It is necessary to do this in order to make arrangements for food, tables etc.

The Grumb - August 24, 1932

The lectures and topics for this morning will be as follows:

- 9.00 - Mr. Munson - "The Modern Spirit: Aldous Huxley, D.H. Lawrence and Virginia Woolf."
10.00 - Mr. Eaton - "Exposition and Entanglement."
11.00 - Mr. De Voto - "Scene"

The Round Table for today will be in Mr. Munson's charge and the topic "Tricks of the Trade," as the Grumb announced yesterday. It is hoped that those attending will contribute what they have learned from their own experience to a discussion of ways of acquiring vocabulary, methods of revision, or any other practical tips on writing.

Tomorrow's Round Table will be directed by Miss Widdemer and the subject will be announced later.

At four thirty this afternoon Mr. Morrison will speak on prose style and certain methods and devices which may be an aid in learning to master it. There will be no evening lecture.

You are reminded of the card party which has been arranged for the benefit of those who wish to play. The Management of the Inn would like to know approximately how many people wish to play. It will help if one person from each proposed table will leave his or her name at the desk.

The Management of the Inn cordially invites the members of the Conference, the guests of the Inn and their guests to attend a tea tomorrow afternoon from four until five o'clock in the Long Parlor near the Dean's Office.

Tomorrow we shall have the pleasure of hearing Mr. Joseph Wood Krutch at eight o'clock in the Music Hall. Mr. Krutch's topic will be "Standards in Criticism."

Will those of you who intend to leave Middlebury by train please see Mr. Yeomans regarding reservations. The Labor Day crowds sometimes interfere with our obtaining Pullmans and Chairs for you unless attention is given them at an early date. Please see Mr. Yeomans in the Dean's Office after dinner today.

The Crumb - August 28, 1932

Today's lectures are as follows:

- 9.00 Mr. Eaton - "The Common Error of too Much
Complication.
How to Achieve Richness"
- 10.00 Mr. DeVoto - "What to leave out."
- 11.00 Mr. Munson - "The Modern Spirit: Thomas Mann,
James Joyce, Marcel Proust."

The Round Table discussion today will be in Mr. DeVoto's charge, the subject, "Fiction."

What is credibility in fiction? What liberties may one take with the reader? What will the reader believe? Is there anyway in which a writer may know when he has reached, or passed the limit of the credible? Is truth stranger than fiction? If it is, is that fact of importance? How does a writer use actual events when he puts them into fiction? May a writer utilize his friends and their personal histories, for fiction?

David McCord will speak this evening at eight oclock in the MusicHall. His subject will be "The Light Essay."

Tomorrow evening Archibald McLeish will speak on poetry and read from his own poems.

Will all those who desire to secure Pullman reservations or purchase tickets to their destination please see Mr. Yeomans after dinner today if you have not already done so.

The Crumb - August 25, 1932

The lectures for this morning are as follows:

9.00	Miss Widdemer	"Further Aspects of Fiction"
10.00	Mr. Dodd	"The Craft of Writing Prose"
11.00	Mr. Hillyer	"Development of Poetic Technique" (continued)

The round table this afternoon will be presided over by Miss Widdemer. The subject: "Orienting yourself; and other early problems
How to know what type of writing you are fitted for- Handling yourself in regard to your work- Methods of inducing the writing mood--
Pitfalls; wrong type of writing courses, agents, etc.
How to get criticism on your manuscript --
Methods of sending out your material- when to expect it back-
how to deal with editors - editorial codes-
Lists of markots; taboos.
And any others you may wish to know.

You are reminded that the Inn invites all members of the Conference and guests of the Inn to tea in the long parlor this afternoon at 4.00 P.M.

It is expected that Mr. Krutch will lecture this evening at 8.00 in the Music Hall on "Standards of Criticism".

The Grumb - August 27, 1932

The schedule of lectures for this morning is as follows:

- 9.00 - Mr. Dodd - "The Magazine Article".
- 10.00 - Mr. Hillier - "The Development of Poetic Technique." (Continued)
- 11.00 - Miss Widdemer - "Approaches to the Novel."

There will be no Round Table Conference this afternoon.

Tonight at eight oclock Mr. Archibald McLeish will speak on Poetry, and will read from his own poems. Everyone at Bread Loaf is cordially invited.

If there are a sufficient number interested, and if cars enough can be procured, a hike will be made to the top of Bread Loaf Mountain tomorrow. If the weather permits the trip, the party would leave the Inn at 9.00 tomorrow morning, going by car to Johnson Lumber Camp on the other side of the Mountain. The party would then ascend the mountain a distance of about two miles returning in time for supper. Mr. Nichol will be at the dining room door directly after dinner today. Please inform him of your wishes.

At your places this morning you will find a blank on which we would appreciate your indicating your plans for departure, trunks, packages etc. We merely want to be sure that you are taken care of in all the details that confront you at your departure.

The Crumb - August 29, 1932

The schedule of lectures for this morning is as follows:

- 9.00 - Mr. DeVoto - "Economy"
- 10.00 - Mr. Munson - "The Modern Spirit and Tradition"
- 11.00 - Mr. Eaton - "Dialogue"

The Round Table this afternoon will be under the direction of Mr. Hillier. The topic is "Some Aspects of Poetry."

Tonight it is expected that Mr. Edward Weeks of the Atlantic will lecture. Everyone at Bread Loaf is cordially invited. The hour is 8.00.

Mr. Joseph Wood Krutch has wired us that he will be here tomorrow, and that he will lecture tomorrow evening.

It has been suggested that an expedition be planned to see the eclipse. If there are those who plan to go and have places in their cars, it would be generous if they would let us know at the Director's Office. The nearest point from which the total eclipse may be seen is Montpelier, a distance of about fifty miles from here. It is possible that some of you may want to make up a party to journey to that point. Please let us know your wishes.

If you are planning to stay over it would be appreciated if you would speak to the men at the Inn Office to arrange for room etc. (i.e. if you are planning to stay at Bread Loaf beyond the closing day of the Conference.

At your places this noon or tonight you will find a blank upon which we would like to have your forwarding and permanent addresses. When this list is complete we will hand you a mimeographed list of the entire group. This list also is used by the Postmaster, and will be necessary in forwarding your mail.

Will the following people please see Mr. Yeomans as soon as possible: Mrs. Steward, Mrs. Eudy, Mr. Moneyway, Miss Scnadritt, Miss Holcomb, and Mrs. Stevens.

The following is the schedule for the morning talks:

9.00 - Mr. Hillyer - Technique of Poetry (Continued)

10.00 - Miss Widdemer - "Things you must never do again."

11.00 - Mr. Dodd - "The Critical Article."

The Round Table this afternoon will be under the direction of Mr. Dodd. The subject is "Should Writers Read."

What should they read, Does a wide knowledge of the best books stimulate or depress original creation? Should one keep up with current literature? A discussion on reading, its uses and abuses.

Tonight we shall have the pleasure of listening to Mr. Joseph Wood Krutch. His subject is "Standards of Criticism." The hour is eight o'clock and everyone at Bread Loaf is cordially invited.

There will be no Round Table tomorrow afternoon.

N.B. The truck will leave the Inn tomorrow noon exactly at 12.00. All individuals who have trunks either to be expressed or checked should have them ready at that time. If you have not already informed us concerning your luggage please see Mr. Yeomans at once.

It has been our custom to defer all tipping until the end of the Conference. This is made necessary because of the table changes. At your places at the tables tomorrow morning you will find envelopes in which you may place whatever you care to give in appreciation for the services given you in the dining room. The Manager of the Inn will then divide the total fund among the various waiters and waitresses. It is probable that those individuals who have had the same table and waitress for the entire Conference will want to attend to this matter personally. Please hand in the envelopes to the INN office.

Regarding your rooms, you will probably want to see the person who cares for your room personally. This is entirely an individual matter.

Will you kindly fill in the following blank and return it to the Director's Office? A mimeographed list of addresses will then be given you.

* * * * *

Name (Last)

First

Address to which mail should be sent

The Crumb -August 31, 1932

The following is the schedule for today:

9.00 - Mr. DeVoto - "Revision".

10.00 - Mr. Eaton - "Writing for the Actor; the value of observation; unity of mood; etc."

11.00 - Mr. Munson - "Pure Art and Pure Economics."

There will be no Round Table this afternoon.

The closing exercises of the Conference will be held this evening. It is expected that President Paul D. Moody will be present, and that members of the staff will speak. The hour is eight oclock and everyone at Bread Loaf is cordially invited.

The envelopes at your places this morning are for the gratuities to the waitresses of which we spoke yesterday morning. Please hand in at the Inn Office.

It will be appreciated if all those who have card tables in their rooms please remove books etc. from them in order that the girls who clean your room may set them outside. to be collected.

The supper hour tonight will be from 6.00 oclock until 7.30, with the latter an absolute dead-line. The Management of the Inn has very kindly co-operated in making this possible, please try to co-operate to the extent of returning to supper by that time.

It is with regret that the Crumb must bid you farewell. We hope your stay at Bread Loaf has been a pleasant one, and that you will plan to visit us again. If you have comments, criticisms regarding the Conference, the Director will be more than willing to hear them. It is our attempt to improve the management of the Conference each year. Your comments will help us to know in what way improvements may be made.

Schedule of Lectures

Bread Loaf Writer's Conference

		9-9.50	10-10.50	11-11.50
Saturday	20th	Dodd	Widdemer	Hillyer
Monday	22nd	De Voto	Munson	Eaton
Tuesday	23rd	Hillyer	Dodd	Widdemer
Wednesday	24th	Munson	Eaton	DeVoto
Thursday	25th	Widdemer	Dodd	Hillyer
Friday	26th	Eaton	Devoto	Munson
Saturday	27th	Dodd	Hillyer	Widdemer
Monday	29th	DeVoto	Munson	Eaton
Tuesday	30th	Hillyer	Widdemer	Dodd
Wednesday	31st	Munson	Eaton	DeVoto

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Bindery July 11

